Bonneville Power Administration

DATE: February 25, 2000

REPLY TO

ATTN OF: KECN-4

SUBJECT: Supplement Analysis for the Wildlife Mitigation Program EIS, (DOE/EIS-0246/SA-09)

Joe DeHerrera – KEWN-4

Fish and Wildlife Project Manager

Proposed Action: Logan Valley Wildlife Mitigation Project, Project No. 20-090-00

Budget No: F5468

Wildlife Management Techniques of Actions Addressed Under this Supplement Analysis (See App A of the Wildlife Mitigation Program EIS):

1.0 Fee-Title Acquisition, 2.0 Plant Propagation Techniques (Transplanting, seeding, irrigation, & fertilization), 4.0 Water Development and Management Techniques (wells, diversions, spring development, check dams/impoundments), 5.0 Water Distribution Techniques (pipelines, culverts, drainage ditches/conveyance channels, 6.0 Fire Management Techniques (prompt fire suppression and fuels management, natural fire management), 7.0 Vegetation Management: Enhancement and control (herbicides, mechanical removal, biological control, hand pulling, prescribed burn), 8.0 Species Management Techniques (introduction, reintroduction, or augmentation of wildlife populations, control of predators and nuisance animals), 9.0 Multiple Use Techniques (integration of wildlife habitat and crop production, provision of educational and recreational opportunities, facility development, grazing, forest management), and 10.0 Transportation/Access Techniques (land use restrictions, road maintenance, road decommissioning).

Location: Grant County, Prairie City, Oregon

Proposed by: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), and Burns-Paiute Tribe

<u>Description of the Proposed Action:</u> This project proposes to acquire 1760 acres of wetland meadows, shrub steppe, and secondary ponderosa pine habitat. The land formerly owned by the Oxbow Ranch of Prairie City, Oregon was used for summer and late fall livestock pasture for 80+ years. The Nature Conservancy of Oregon currently owns the property and is working with the Tribe to use this land as a mitigation site for habitat losses in the Snake River basin. The purpose of this acquisition is to restore and enhance all forms of habitats associated with the property. Wildlife in particular will be the basis of our landscape enhancement design. Fish and other aquatic organisms will receive secondary benefits with the actions taken to restore riparian areas.

<u>Analysis:</u> The compliance checklist for this project was completed by the Burns-Paiute Tribe and meets the standards and guidelines for the Wildlife Mitigation Program Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Record of Decision.

A list was received on December 2, 1999, from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service identifying species listed as Threatened, Endangered, Proposed Species and Species of Concern found within the project area. Although no management plan has yet been drafted for this project by the Burns Paiute Tribe or BPA, the transfer of ownership of the property would have no effect on these species. We anticipate that this project and the activities associated with implementation will have no adverse effects to the species listed under the section 7 Consultation for the Endangered Species Act, and will complete consultation as required prior to taking any actions that would affect listed species.

The Burns-Paiute Tribe conducted a literature search for historic and archaeological sites on the property on January 11, 1999. No known sites were identified. The need for further site-specific surveys will be determined when the Project Management Plan is completed. The Burns-Paiute Tribe will conduct site-specific surveys prior to any ground-disturbing activities.

On December 29, 1999, Fred Walasavage of BPA completed a Phase I Site Assessment and concluded that the site did not reveal any environmental factors that would pose a significant liability for remedial action or cleanup under the Comprehensive Recovery, Compensation and Liability Act.

<u>Findings:</u> The project is generally consistent with Sections 7.6A, 7.6B, 7.6C, 11.1, 11.3A, and 11.3H of the Northwest Power Planning Council's Fish and Wildlife Program. This Supplement Analysis finds; 1) that the proposed actions are substantially consistent with the Wildlife Management Program EIS (DOE/EIS-2965) and ROD, and; 2) that there are no new circumstances or information relevant to environmental concerns and bearing on the proposed actions or their impacts. Therefore, no further NEPA documentation is required.

/s/ Linda McKinney
KECN Project Lead
Environment, Fish and Wildlife Group

CONCUR: /s/ Robert W. Beraud for
Thomas C. McKinney
NEPA Compliance Officer

DATE: February 25, 2000

Attachments: NEPA Compliance Checklist

cc: w/ attachments

- L. Croff KECP-4
- B. Beraud KECN-4
- L. McKinney KECN-4
- T. McKinney KECN-4
- N. Weintraub KECN-4
- H. Nigam EH-42
- P. Key LN-7

Daniel Gonzalez, Burns-Paiute Tribe

Official File – EQ-15 (Supplemental Analysis)

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